

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 DRC-01 /129 W

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O 160352Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 152

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 1371

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, XM, MX

SUBJ: FINAL PREPARATORY MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREPARATORY
COMMITTEE

REF: A) MEXICO 1320; O) MEXICO 1321; C) MEXICO 1325; D) MEXICO 1332

1. THE FINAL "DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS" SUBMITTED BY THE PREPARATORY
MEETING TO THE LA MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (REF D) GENERALLY
COINCIDE WITH THE PREVIOUS DRAFT WITH AMENDMENTS GIVEN US BY DE LA
COLINA (REF A). THERE ARE HOWEVER SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:

A. THE SATURDAY MORNING "GIVE-AND-TAKE" SESSION ON ALL ITEMS
HAS BEEN DROPPED IN FAVOR OF SHORTER 1&A SESSIONS AFTER EACH OF
THE FIRST SEVEN ITEMS.

B. THE OPTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER TO ADDRESS ALL TEN AGENDA
ITEMS AT ONCE, RATHER THAN EIGHT AT FIRST AND TWO LATER, IS NOT
SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED. TELLO HAS ASSURED ME THAT THIS OPTION
STILL REMAINS OPEN TO THE SECRETARY IF HE WISHES TO SUGGEST IT,
THOUGH QUIJANO AT LUNCH TODAY SAID THERE WAS A DEFINITE PREFERENCE

AMONG THE "EXPERTS" FOR THE 8-AND-2 ARRANGEMENT.

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2. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE PAPER CONTAINS NO RECOMMENDATION ON WHAT THE NATURE OF THE DOCUMENT TO COME OUT OF THE MFM SHOULD BE, "SINCE THIS WILL DEPEND ON THE RESULTS OF THE DIALOGUE WITH SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER".

3. THE PAPER GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF A CONSIDERABLY MORE STRUCT-

URED MEETING THAN WE HAD HOPED WOULD COME OUT OF THE MEETING. IN OUR VIEW THE RECOMMENDATION AS IT NOW STANDS HAS SEVERAL DISADVANTAGES:

A. IT MAY ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS ON THE SAME MATTER UNDER DIFFERENT AGENDA ITEMS, SINCE THERE IS SOME OVERLAP OF SUBJECT MATTER (1,

2 AND 3, FOR EXAMPLE, OR 5, 6 AND 7). A MORE GENERAL Q&A PERIOD MIGHT AVOID THAT.

B. IT IS ALMOST SURE TO LEAD TO A TIME SQUEEZE, SINCE THE FIRST ITEMS WILL TAKE MORE THAN THEIR ALLOTTED TIME, WITH MANY FOREIGN MINISTERS GETTING THEIR TWO-CENTS-WORTH ON EVERY POSSIBLE OCCASION. HANDLING THE TIME FACTOR WILL BE EASIER IF THERE IS A GIVEN AMOUNT OF TIME AT THE END FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION.

C. A MAIN PURPOSE OF THE MEETING -- THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A BROAD SENSE OF HEMISPHERIC COMMUNITY -- WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE IF MOST OF THE TIME IS SPENT ON SPECIFIC ITEMS. A LONG DISCUSSION PERIOD WOULD GIVE THE SECRETARY AND OTHERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TIE THE DISCUSSION INTO A COHERENT WHOLE.

D. IF THE MEETING HAD TO BE ABBREVIATED FOR ANY REASON, THE US INITIATED ITEMS MIGHT BE CASUALTIES. (ON THE OTHER HAND, IN SUCH A CASE, AT LEAST SOME GIVE-AND-TAKE WOULD HAVE OCCURRED).

4. THE PRINCIPAL ADVANTAGE OF THE RECOMMENDATION IS THAT IT SHOULD LEAD TO GREATER COHERENCE IN DEALING WITH EACH QUESTION, AVOIDING THE PRESS-CONFERENCE-LIKE BOUNCING ABOUT FROM ONE MATTER TO ANOTHER, WHICH MIGHT CHARACTERIZE THE GENERAL DISCUSSION.

5. OUR RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF. B ARE NOT CHANGED BY THIS NEW
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FORMAT. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE LATINS SHOULD BE URGED TO CONTRACT THE ITEM-BY-ITEM DISCUSSION AND ALLOW FOR A THOROUGH GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION BY THE MINISTERS OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT AT THE END. CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SUGGESTING A NIGHT SESSION FRIDAY, TOO, (EVEN THOUGH PRESENT SCHEDULE CALLS FOR FONSECA RABASA'S DINNER THAT EVENING).
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